

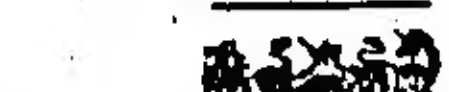
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Hongkong, 215, 1 December 1885.

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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

Hongkong, 19th December, 1888.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1889.

THE Reuter's telegram of the 30th ult., published in our yesterday's issue, gives us a frightful idea of how matters stand between Church and State in the republic of Mexico. Troubles have existed for a long time past between the priesthood and the Government of that republic, but no one could have possibly anticipated the tragic results just telegraphed from London. That an armed mob, incited to rebellion and led by a horde of priests with the Archbishop at their head, should have attacked the palace of the President of Mexico, and that in the desperate fighting which ensued with the soldiery stationed in the vicinity, seventy-two disciples of St. Peter should have been killed, two hundred captured, and the Archbishop himself made a prisoner and sentenced to be shot, show a state of affairs that forcibly brings back reminiscences of the St. Bartholomew massacres, and the earlier religious riots which under the directions of the saintly CRYSTAL devastated the city of Alexandria and immolated HYPATIA on the altar steps of a Christian temple.

The Mexican outbreak is one of the thousand and one arguments which the Roman Catholic clergy have at all epochs advanced against itself. Superstition, fanaticism, and the presumption of infallibility are apt to transform the face of the earth into a scene of perpetual strife, what they have done in by-gone ages they are capable of doing again did the opportunity offer, and but for the prompt reaction which sets in among the cultured and independent classes of the community, the Christian world would ere long have again been forced under the yoke of the Roman See. Moreover, if there is anything more condemnatory of the doctrines professed by these self-styled champions of the Gospel, it is the method they adopt in its propagation throughout the world. They have invariably invoked the help of arms when the secular powers were friendly to them; and in the contrary case, they have never scrupled to utilise the masses against the legally constituted rulers of friendly States. This latest priestly revolution in Mexico is a glaring instance of this assertion, and yet is only a repetition of so many other identical so-called religious uprisings which have steeped nations in blood and disgraced true religion. The defence of the Mexican traitors will doubtless be that convenient Jesuitical article of faith—"the end justifies the means," and we doubt not that President PORFIRIO DIAZ and the Mexican Government will justify the summary method they have adopted of finally disposing of the traitorous Archbishop with precisely the same argument. It is to be hoped, however, that the Government will temper justice with clemency in dealing with the two hundred priests captured with arms in their saintly hands fighting against the constituted authorities of the country. That they deserve the same fate as the Archbishop cannot be disputed, and it is equally certain that traitors to the State in Mexico and other Central American republics are seldom, if ever, permitted a second opportunity of proving troublesome; a volley of musketry effectually solves the difficulty. But in this case there would seem to be no necessity to "wipe out" the entire priesthood of the city of Mexico, especially as the rebellion has been so promptly repressed; eternal banishment from the country would answer all purposes equally well and at the same time save the Republic from a similar reproach to that which followed the impolitic and quite unnecessary execution of the unfortunate MAXIMILIAN.

The effect of the rebellion will probably prove a death-blow to the supremacy of the Roman Catholic religion in Mexico. It is quite certain that the

Government will in future exercise a much stricter supervision over the priesthood, and curtail every privilege that is in any way likely to endanger the State. In Mexico the Church and State are independent of each other, and although Roman Catholicism is the prevailing religion, all other faiths are tolerated by law. Last year there were no fewer than sixty-two Protestant churches in the country, with over twenty thousand adherents, and the number was rapidly increasing. By law no ecclesiastical body can acquire landed property—a law that ought to prevail in all countries—and it is this measure which will now enable President DIAZ to render impotent all attempts of the Roman Catholic priesthood to upset the existing Government.

A VERY interesting passage-at-arms took place in the Legislative Council last night, in the discussion on *The Merchant Shipping Amendment Bill*, between Governor DES VŒUX and the Hon. P. RYRIE. His Excellency had doubtless the advantage (on paper at least) so far as repartee went, but the senior unofficial member had decidedly the best of the argument. An amendment had been proposed by the Government which in several respects materially altered the present *Merchant Shipping Bill*. Mr. P. RYRIE, representing the community and shipping interests generally, wished to know whether the fees set down in the proposed amendment were in excess of those charged under the present Ordinance. The Attorney-General, who, we are bound to assume, framed the amendment, "didn't know"; but he thought they were the same as before. Mr. RYRIE, on receiving this most unsatisfactory reply, very naturally remarked that the shipping interests of the port must be jealously guarded against unnecessary impositions. The Governor responded by stating that the fees in question had been submitted to Captain THOMSON before he left the colony, and after admitting that personally he, the responsible Head of the Executive, did not know whether there was or not any change in the new proposals, expressed the opinion that as the Bill had been before the Council for many weeks, any objection should not have been left over until the last moment.

"Only wish to know," said the MacRYRIE, "if there is any increase in the charges."

His Excellency—It strikes me, Mr. RYRIE, that if you are so interested in the matter, you might have taken the trouble to look into it.

Mr. RYRIE thereupon very pertinently remarked that, as nobody seemed to know whether the proposed amendment contained any changes or not, the Council was passing the Bill in the dark, and he protested against such procedure. His Excellency, still in a captious or satirical vein, declined to recognise the protest in the form presented; but His Excellency quite forgot to say in what particular form he would recognise what we consider a very proper protest against official neglect, or ignorance—we don't care which.

We have with exemplary patience given Governor DES VŒUX a very long innings without once questioning the wisdom of his public policy; but we have not been asleep, and His Excellency must learn sooner or later—and better at once than hereafter—that there is at least one recognised organ of public opinion in this colony that will not sit tamely by and see the trusted representatives of public interests ridden over roughshod by official arrogance and narrow-minded Imperialism. If Governor DES VŒUX is not acquainted with the ordinary rules of parliamentary debate and the inherent rights of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, we are prepared to teach him, as we have taught more than one of his predecessors. Mr. RYRIE had every right to ask the question that he did, and considering that both Mr. Attorney-General O'MALLEY, who drafted the Bill, and His Excellency, who is responsible for it to the Colonial Office, confessed their ignorance as to whether any changes had been made in the scale of fees or not, we quite fail to see any justification for the Governor's anything but courteous retort that it was the senior unofficial member's business to be thoroughly posted before coming to the Council table. Governor DES VŒUX and Mr. E. L. O'MALLEY are paid for the proper performance of their duties to this colony; they actually introduce to the Legislative Council a Bill, of the material points of which they are entirely ignorant, and yet when Mr. RYRIE, an unofficial and unpaid member, asks a simple but nevertheless pertinent question, he is officially snubbed and told that he ought to have known all about it without asking. If it were Mr. RYRIE's business to be acquainted with the details of a Bill brought forward by the Government, what can we say about the Attorney-General,

who drafted the instrument, and the Governor, who sanctioned it, when they in open Council have to confess that they are utterly ignorant of one of the most important sections in the proposed amendment! Luckily the further consideration of the Ordinance has been postponed; when it is next brought on the tapis Mr. RYRIE will doubtless repeat his question, and we venture to believe that he will receive a satisfactory answer. We are glad to note that Governor DES VŒUX is an epigrammatist, but his Excellency is too old a stager on the political platform to risk his deservedly high reputation, and injure his popularity by sacrificing common sense and over-riding all recognised precedents of parliamentary debate for the sake of firing off a pungent, yet somewhat weak, epigram.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE China-Borneo Company have been appointed agents for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in Sandakan.

We hear that Mr. E. L. O'MALLEY, the Attorney-General, will leave for England during the present month. It is understood that he will not return to Hongkong.

OUR Fochow contemporary of December 29th states that during the previous fortnight three native Banks had been compelled to "put up the shutters," the liabilities in one instance amounting to \$150,000.

THE boat race between Cambridge University and Yale College (of the United States) will be rowed on the Thames on or about the 15th April. What are the odds the Yankees don't avenge the Harvard and Atlanta defeats?

A bullet-proof shield is one of the latest inventions in Denmark. It is to be used by two soldiers, and may, it is said, be easily carried and fixed, and the men then coolly blaze away from behind either with rifles or machine guns, without being picked off by anything less than a cannon-ball.

THE etymology of the word honeymoon is thus given by a good authority: "Among the northern nations of Europe there was an ancient practice of newly married couples to drink methelgen or mead, a kind of wine made from honey (hydromel) for thirty days after marriage. Hence the term honeymoon or honeymoon. Attila, the Hun, drank so much mead at his wedding feast that he died."

BONHAM ROAD is a nice promenade in an afternoon, but it has its drawbacks. Chief Inspector Horspool picked one up yesterday, weighing about four pounds. He heard a blast some distance away, and on looking up saw a big stone coming down like a bolt from the blue empyrean. Having steered his coolies out of the way he waited till it dropped, and then bore it off as a silent witness against the contractor who had been so negligently blasting. It cost the latter—Tsang San—\$10 this morning, and little enough, too.

A GREAT storm is brewing in Scotland, where, we venture to remark, great storms are of no uncommon occurrence. The sword of Sir William Wallace, "the hero of Scotland," has been removed from Dumbarton Castle to Stirling, and the men of "the Lennox" are in angry mood. A few weeks since the sword was handed over, with great pomp by Colonel Nightingale (commandant at Stirling Castle) to the custodians of the Wallace Monument on the Abbey Craig, and the "piper of Dumbarton" has been on the war-path ever since.

THE Maharajah Duleep Singh is now in Paris. A correspondent says:—The Maharajah asserted that he was hand-and-glove with some of the Irish leaders. His trump card, however, is, he believes, the religious sentiments of those he calls his subjects. In explaining to me its value the Maharajah said: I am a prophet, whose advent was foretold by the last of our prophets, who died in 1724. This prophet said some one of his name would be born about the time of my birth in the house of a man married to a Mahomedan woman. My father was the only man I ever heard of in my country who really married a Mahomedan woman. He would for many years live in a distant foreign land; but would return to his native country, and become a great ruler, re-establishing the Sikh religion, correcting its abuses, &c.

NAVAL JACK was very much ashore yesterday. He had a few cases of beer at the Circus last night, but behaved very well, generally. A few of him got rampagious afterwards, however, and the police had some rough work. Bill Smith, Esq., of the *Imperialist*, was successfully anchored in the police station at Wanchai, but he had a parting shot at Inspector Swanson, which dimmed the lustre of that officer's eye, and was assessed at \$2 this morning. Three *Himalaya* men—Blegge, Savage, and Hoper—made things hum at the other end of the town—Queen's Road West—about the same time. They formed part of a crowd of leave-men, and were larking with the contents of a Chinese shop just as P.C.'s Paul and Haddon came up. One of the crowd ran away, and they, naturally, followed and caught him. As they did so some of the others set on them, and Savage struck Paul on the head with a whisky bottle, some one else closing with Haddon. An Indian constable prevented Savage from striking a second blow, and some constables came up and arrested the three men. On arrival at the Central Station the constables were found to have several slight wounds on their heads, and two bottles of liquor were found on the men. At the Police Court, to-day, before Mr. Woodhouse, all three denied assaulting the officers, and asserted that the latter provoked the row whilst under the influence of drink. In the absence of direct evidence Blegge and Hoper were discharged; Savage was fined \$5.

THE latest official returns, which are for 1886, show that 24,841 persons were killed by wild beasts in that year in British India. Of these 22,134 were killed by snakes, 928 by tigers, 222 by wolves, 194 by leopards, 113 by bears, 57 by elephants, 24 by hyenas, and 1169 by other animals, including scorpions, jackals, lizards, bears, crocodiles, buffaloes, mad dogs, and foxes. In the case both of human beings and animals the destruction appears to be on the increase. During the past nine years rewards were paid for 179,650 wild animals, and for 2,672,467 snakes.

A JAVA contemporary states that on the east coast of Sumatra, especially in Deli, tobacco cultivation has been the exclusive pursuit of the planters, who care nothing for the danger of putting all their eggs in one basket. Lately, now that the soil, continually cropped for tobacco, begins to show signs of exhaustion, some of them have cast about for other means to gain a living by cultivation. Sugar growing has come into favour as a possible stand-by, but the depression of trade in this article does not hold out encouraging hopes to parties desirous of embarking in the venture. An experimental plantation would settle doubtful points once for all, and prove whether or not the soil of Deli lends itself readily to a new departure of the kind suggested, but the difficulty lies in finding any planter willing to risk capital in such a novel undertaking.

GORDON's statue in Trafalgar-square, according to a home paper, creates a very lively interest, and groups of people are usually found familiarising themselves with his features and reading such scanty dates and names of places as are inscribed on the pedestal. But one whole side is blank, and in a few years thousands will look at Gordon without perhaps remembering what made him so great and dear to the English people. Why not inscribe in the blank space Gordon's famous Khartoum motto? "By the help of God I will hold the balance level," and underneath a line or two to record that he was a brave soldier, a godly man, a lover of his kind, and the dauntless friend of freedom and justice; that he made his name famous and revered throughout Asia, Europe, Africa; and by quelling rebellion and anarchy in China.

THE Russian newspaper *Novosti* makes a startling revelation, that the "Whitechapel murderer" is Russian. The *Novosti* gives the following particulars about "Jack the Ripper":—"He was born at Tiraspol in South Russia in 1847, and graduated at the Odessa University. After 1870 he became a fanatical Anarchist, and emigrated to Paris, where he went out of his mind. His monomania was that fallen women could only be redeemed and go to heaven if they were murdered. This led him to perpetrate a number of murders in Paris. The Paris police arrested him, but on discovering that he was a lunatic they shut him up in an asylum. That was sixteen years ago. He was kept there until a short time prior to the last murder in Whitechapel, when he was released as cured. He went to London, and there lodged with different compatriot refugees until the first woman was assassinated in Whitechapel, since which time his friends have not seen him."

THE want of something in the way of a workhouse—not quite a casual ward, but rather a home for the reception of the waifs who are occasionally stranded on our shores—is frequently felt. On New Year's Day two nice looking Mauritius creole women, with three children, presented themselves at the Police Station, and explained, as well as they could, that they were destitute. In the absence of any better place they were lodged in the witness room, a bare, fireless, draughty chamber, pending arrangements for their passage to Mauritius being made by the Government. Probably that is better than consigning them to what some unfortunate sisters of theirs called "une maison de chiens"—the Tung-wa Hospital, but it is far from satisfactory that women reared in the tropics, with young children, should be exposed to the raw air. The history of the poor women is only a repetition of other cases. They married Chinamen in Mauritius, and two years ago accompanied them to their home—a village two or three days journey beyond Canton. They were treated worse and worse, until, a month ago, they ran away, and begged their way down to Hongkong.

KISSING in England was certainly known and practised in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and practised with an easy familiarity which shows the custom was general. Indeed, so general was the use of the kiss that it was as usual as the bow. A gentleman taking a lady to her seat from the dance invariably kissed her, and if he had not would have been voted a very badly-bred fellow. How much older English kisses were is not very clear. Suffice it to say that the custom has outlived to our day, though fashionable and general games in which kissing formed a prominent part are now becoming rarer than they were a quarter of a century ago. The literature of kisses is curious. There is a story related in the "Broad Stone of Honor" of an English knight riding through France to the Field of the Cloth of Gold. His horse cast a shoe at a certain village, the seigneur whereof had departed to the same rendezvous, but the seigneur's lady hospitably entertained the traveller. She came out of her castle attended by twelve damsels fair to see, and, said the dame, "forasmuch as in England ye have such a custom as that a man may kiss a woman, therefore I will that ye kiss me and ye shall also kiss all these, my maidens," which thing the knight straightway did and rejoiced greatly thereat. The quaintness of the last phrase undoubtedly indicates the young man's feeling at the salute with considerable exactitude. In Africa and other parts of the world outside the circle of civilisation kissing is as yet an unknown art. An African traveller once offered a kiss under favorable circumstances to a young lady of K. Mumbo Jumbo's court, but she recoiled in great alarm, observing that she was not yet worthy to be eaten.

HARDING'S Operetta Company were advertised to perform at the Town Hall, Singapore, on Boxing Night. As the Company appears to consist only of Mr. C. Harding, Miss Gracie Plaisted, and Mr. Barry O'Neill, a split in the camp doubtless took place in Java. Both Mr. Harding and Miss Plaisted are vocalists of high class, the former a robust tenor and the latter a soprano of extraordinary power. They will scarcely venture on a visit to Hongkong—unless they arrange to amalgamate with Messrs. Willard and Sheridan's American Musical Comedy and Opera Company.

HERE is a characteristic story of the late Colonel Burnaby. *Bon camarade* as he was out of his regimentals, he was a martinet of marionettes on parade. It was a habit of his to wear his helmet, not in the orthodox fashion, tipped over the eyes, but set well back on his head. One of his troopers took a fancy to imitate the Colonel, and appeared on parade one morning with his helmet "all anyhow." "Your helmet, sir! Put it on rightly," thundered the Colonel, who had observed the delinquent in a twinkling. The next day the trooper again appeared on parade with his helmet cocked defiantly on the back of his head. The Colonel at once ordered him under arrest, and gave him some slight punishment. Shortly afterwards the trooper left the service, and in the street one day he was met by his former Colonel. "Hallo, Bl! How are you?" said Burnaby. "Getting on well? That's right. Here"—slipping a £5 note into the man's hand—"put this in your pocket. Go and buy yourself a hat and—wear it how you like!"

THE recent death of Herr Zukertort, the distinguished chess-player, has suggested the idea that chess-playing is fatal to longevity. Herr Zukertort died at the age of 46, and the inquest held upon his body revealed the fact that there were "signs of decay at the base of the brain." We are reminded that Paul Morphy, the wonder of the world of chess, died young. It would be vain to cite cases of accomplished performers who are busy over their "brilliant attacks" and masterly combinations at an advanced age. As to the chess dream, it is an affliction of the novice, and the seasoned performer no more fights his battles over again after he has gone to bed than a judge rehears in his sleep the cause he has been trying at nisi prius. Players of all games have their trials to bear. True, the game is of absorbing interest while it lasts; but so is the cross-examination at the hands of eminent counsel. There is nothing particularly wonderful in such stories as that of the Khalif of Bagdad exclaiming, "Let me alone. I see checkmate against Kuthar," when they interrupted him at a game of chess to tell him that the city was just being carried by assault. The Khalif was getting the best of Kuthar. Who does not sympathize with the monarch who smashed the chess-board over his brother's head? It will generally be agreed that chess gives a sterner cast to the character—if that is an advantage. Few will believe that it shortens life—at any rate in countries where the power of summarily executing a successful opponent does not exist. Apropos of intellectual games an observation with respect to their relative effect upon human character will have suggested itself to every thoughtful and impartial mind. It is that the habitual whist-player is a far more agreeable person than the habitual chess-player. The whist master, like any other artist, regards his partner's game, be the same good, bad or indifferent, as a part of his material, from which he has to produce such effect as it is capable of yielding.—H. D. Thall in *English Magazine*.

UNDER the heading "The Poor Pope," the *Sydney Bulletin* remarks:—"It was called the other day that all the Roman Catholic bishops have been directed to agitate for the recognition of the temporal power of the Pope, but we doubt very much if the faithful here will worry themselves over Leo's trouble any more than they would over the rates charged on the canals in the planet Mars. The Holy Pontiff would seem to be on the holy grab like all the rest of the rulers of the Old World, but the stupid blunder he made when he allowed himself to be made the tool of the English Government and attempted to crush the Home Rule movement—a matter of which he seems to have been profoundly ignorant—proved how incompetent he and his antiquated ring of Cardinals were to deal with any question relating to temporal rights or power. It has long been the policy of the Roman Pontiff to pose as a poor, persecuted prisoner in his own land; but a couple of quotations from the Italian Statute Book place a very different aspect on the matter. One clause of the Act relating to Vatican affairs expressly says: 'The person of the Supreme Pontiff is inviolate. An attack upon his person, or an incitement thereto, is punished in the same manner as the corresponding crimes against the person of the king.' Nothing could be more decisive in the way of protecting the person of the Pope than this, and some idea of the liberal manner in which the State provides for his temporal wants can be obtained from another portion of the Act, which says: 'An income of 3,225,000 francs (£129,000) is set apart for the Holy See.' This grant is inscribed in the Great Book of the Public Debt, as 'a perpetual and inalienable income, in the name of the Sovereign Pontiff.' In addition to this, 'His Holiness is to be allowed to continue to occupy the two great palaces of the Vatican and the Lateran, with the adjoining dwellings and estates, and also the Villa Castell-Gandolfo, which, together with the museums, libraries, and collections of art and archaeology, are inalienable and exempt from all taxes or charges of any kind whatsoever.' There are quite a number of temporal monarchs to be found to-day who would cheerfully submit to be 'prisoners in their own lands' on such terms as these, and if the present Pontiff has a glimmer of worldly wisdom he will cease irritating the Italian Government by his peevish, ridiculous complaints, and sit quietly down in his fine fat seat and make the most of what every sensible person must consider to be a jolly good bargain for Peter the Fisherman's present representative."

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. courteously informs us that the steamship *Bengal*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port at 6 a.m. to-day.

THE *Foochow Echo* of the 29th ult. says:—A report reaches us from a private source (native) that the Viceroy will not now dare to make any more trouble about Kuliang, as a rather nasty wire has reached him from Li Hung Chang on the subject, telling him not to meddle in foreign affairs without his sanction and that His Excellency will make him responsible if any trouble arises. The houses at Kuliang would have long been destroyed if the above had not reached the Viceroy in good time.

NAPOLEON I. was a fatalist, as everybody knows. He had great faith in a ring which he always carried about with him. At the time of his abdication at Fontainebleau in 1814, and after his ineffectual attempt to poison himself, he said to Dr. Corvisart, who attended him: "I was not meant to die; I did not think of my talisman." So saying, he pointed to his ring—the origin of which has hitherto remained a secret. After his death the jewel was transferred to Queen Hortense, who subsequently presented it to Prince Louis. Napoleon III. wore only this ring, which by his courtiers was termed the Emperor's ring, and another which had been left him by his mother. When Napoleon III. stood talking to anyone he would fold his hands behind his back and play with the rings, slipping them off his fingers and putting them on again. It frequently happened that they dropped down, and rolled long distances on the well-polished floor, so that it sometimes was difficult to find them. At the death of Napoleon III. they wanted to present the rings to the Prince Imperial, and tried to strip them off the fingers of the deceased monarch. But the young Prince declined to accept the heirloom, saying: "No, I do not wish to rob my father!" Thus the talisman of Napoleon I. was laid in the museum at Chislehurst which Napoleon's servants regarded as an evil omen for their young Prince. To this day they cherish the conviction that Prince Louis would not have met his untimely end in Calcutta if he had been protected by the talisman of his great uncle. The "old guard" of the Tuileries have given up all hopes of a revival of the Bonapartist legend. "The chain of the old tradition," they say, "is broken, one of its links is missing."

SUPREME COURT.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION. (Before the Chief Justice.)

THE CHINESE BOND CASE.
This case, adjourned from yesterday, was resumed this morning. The Attorney-General called.

Ng Sau San, son of the plaintiff, who stated that on the 31st December, 1885, he saw his father give defendant \$500 and a promissory note for \$500 in return for a bond for \$2,400.—That concluded the plaintiff's case.

Mr. Francis did not propose to take up the time of the Court by further setting forth his defence, but called.

The defendant, who said that he was an adopted son of the late Tam Chai. He gave a bond for \$2,400 to the plaintiff on the 31st December 1885, and received \$500 in exchange—\$500 notes and \$400 afterwards or a promissory note. He never got any more, although he asked for it. The plaintiff told an untrue story when he said he paid him \$2,300. His brother-in-law introduced him to defendant. He did not think the last witness was there. He could read a little English, but could not understand so much. He did not know what the bond said. He saw when he signed it that it was for \$2,400. He signed it expecting to get \$1,000 down, \$1,000 more to be available for lawyer's expenses, and \$400 for broker's commission. Plaintiff said when he paid witness the \$500, "I will keep the other \$1,000, because if I give it you will use it all. You can have it when you want it or get it. Witness had been told that he would need the \$1,000 for his expenses in changing his solicitor, &c., and he wanted \$1,000 more for his debts. Plaintiff distinctly said that he would pay any demands from the lawyer out of the \$1,000. The reason witness accepted a promissory note for \$500 was the plaintiff said he had no more money just then. Witness attorney applied for some of the money, and was refused. Plaintiff gave him a cheque for \$400 of the \$500 promissory note, but wanted to write something on it limiting it. The cashier refused to take such a cheque, however, and then plaintiff gave him a plain cheque.

By the Attorney-General.—When I signed the bond I did not know I was borrowing the plaintiff's money. I afterwards found out he was lending it to me, and complained about his charging commission, demanding the bond and offering him the money back. He said it would be all right—he would give me a year's interest instead. I spent the money in paying my debts. I bought a wife since then—a concubine, at least. I did not pay much—some hundreds of dollars. What are you asking me for? No, I did not give \$1,000. I borrowed the money from a friend—I gave him a bond for it. I have borrowed from several people, but have not borrowed from one to pay another. I mortgaged my shops to get some money. (Here the witness shook his head in disgust at having to make all these revelations and refused to say any more for a while, until the subject was changed) I have borrowed money from Mr. Caldwell.

By the Court.—I was under twenty-one on the 31st December, 1885. The old Chief Justice, whenever he saw me, used to ask me how old I was (laughter). Whenever I wanted to see how old I was I used to come and see the register.

Mr. Caldwell deposed that he became solicitor for the defendant in April 1886, in place of Mr. Stephens. He did not tell defendant's brother-in-law that he should require \$1,000. The defendant was introduced to the office in Dec. by witness's clerk, who said he wanted to leave Mr. Stephens. He agreed to act, and paid some money would be required to retain counsel. He explained that the costs would be paid out of the estate.

Wong Ah Kun, mother of the defendant, and a servant in the family of Tam Ah Chai, said that Tam Ah Chai's fourth wife adopted him when he was a month old. She thought he was twenty-four in the second moon, Chinese reckoning.

Mr. Francis then addressed the Court for the defence. He reviewed the case as presented for the plaintiff, and in refutation of it urged that the bond was wholly invalid through its execution by the defendant who was an infant. But he would not ask the protection of the law on that account, and had replied late Court the 29th

admitted to be lent, with eight per cent. interest. In December 1885, when about to come of age, he naturally desired to personally look after his rights, and borrowed money for the purpose. As an expectant heir—a class which the Courts looked upon as being peculiarly liable to be deceived and oppressed by designing money-lenders—he had fallen a prey to the plaintiff in a period of necessity. He was at present in the same position, practically, except for some income from the rental of a little house property. He had lived imprudently, no doubt, but it was evident that this was to a considerable extent due to the bad advice of his brother-in-law, who influenced him in this matter. The plaintiff pretended to be the agent instead of the principal in the loan, for the sake of getting the brokerage, and obtained the bond on false pretences in respect to the legal expenses. It was evident that the plaintiff did not keep back \$100 from the \$500 for which he gave the promissory note, but \$1,000, from the evidence of defendant's brother-in-law. The question turned entirely on the credibility of the parties and the point of infancy, the onus of proof resting with the plaintiff.

The Attorney-General submitted, on his side, that the onus of proof, except in respect to the bond, lay with the defendant. As regards the alleged fraud he submitted that the most which could be said was that the one witness in support of it was the man who had the most interest in shewing the debt—the defendant. In the face of the bond and of the receipt for the interest that evidence was incredible. The story told by the plaintiff and his witnesses had not been substantially impeached; the defendant had not even moved in the matter, and proceeded against the men who conspired to defraud him, although he had been in constant communication with his solicitor, Mr. Caldwell. In conclusion he referred to the intangibility of the evidence as to the age of the defendant, and to the fact that in another suit his age was set down as ten months older. The defence of infancy, in any case, was a dishonest resort, and if it failed (he the speaker) hoped that his responsibilities would be enforced. Neither fraud nor minority had been established and he urged that the bond should stand.

Judgment was deferred.

THE YELLOW RIVER DISTRICTS.

Mr. John W. Stevenson of the China Inland Mission sends the following interesting communication to the *N. C. Daily News*—

As your readers are aware the distressed people in the Chou-kiang-keo district have been receiving relief through Mr. Coulthard and his companions. Other districts have been from time to time visited to ascertain if there was pressing distress.

The 1st of a journey of investigation occupying from 30th October to 28th November has been reached us, and some extracts from Mr. Johnston's letter may interest your readers; he writes from Chou-kiang-keo on 30th November:—

"We have just returned from our journey up the East side of the flooded district, and as far North as the breach and back again. Our object was to collect information as to the condition of the people. On the whole we had a good reception, and much friendly feeling was manifested.

"Our journey was as far East as the outside of Tai-kiang-hsien. The first 30 li we had to go by boat, to get to the East border of the flooded district in that direction.

"At Tai-kiang-hsien there are tents erected, and Government relief afforded for the distressed. From there we turned more North West, keeping within short distance of the flood and going up to Chi-ma-hai and Peh-li-chih passing to the West of Tung-hai-hsien through Chu-sien-chien and to the breach, which lies about 12 li to the West of Yang-kiao. These places may be found on the native map.

"On passing through the above named places we found no special distress existing; the people complained of lack of business, as the result of the flood, but the depression was more general than particular.

"The district covered by water is not nearly as vast as a year ago, the water having in many places resolved itself into well-defined river courses, which may help to account for its having receded on the Eastern side, to the extent of 8, 10, and 12 li in some places.

"At Chu-sien-chien we were informed that 10,000 people were receiving government relief. Large inclosures with the usual straw and mud huts were erected inside the city, but much more closely confined than anywhere else I have seen. One is not surprised on looking at the way the people are huddled together to hear that the death rate was exceedingly high during the 7th and 8th moons; and that numbers of the people left because of the prevailing sickness.

Matters are now better there, and many have returned while others are still arriving. The larger *huay-kwans* are turned for the present into centres for distributing grain, as the people themselves provide the firing, and cook their own food. The town as a whole, gives one the idea of the district being poor; though since the flood quite a large trading trade has sprung up for the transportation of salt, which is obtained near. On leaving for the breach, the poverty of the town was explained, as to the north the whole district seems only a vast sandy barren plain, with scarcely a trace of cultivation or habitation.

"This desolate appearance continues all the way to and apparently beyond the breach. One is not prepared for the scene of activity and life near the breach itself."

Here Mr. Johnston gives a description of the breach similar to that which was sent from your correspondent from Kai-feng-fu that we need not repeat. Crossing the breach to the West side, our friends came South as far as opposite Chu-sien-chien and found that besides the large river that flows past it, there are in addition two well formed streams, each from 2 to 3 li wide, having well-defined banks, and separate from each other, in one case 5 li and the other 3 li intervening. At Chi-sien-chien they engaged a boat and went on to Chang-shih-tai; at this place Mr. Johnston says:—

"We found the government had a few days previously opened it as a centre for distributing grain, the people received it in abundance. We were surprised at the comfortable and well-laid appearance in crowding. We made enquiry and found that any person might go who cared to and that not only the really needy, but others took advantage of it."

Returning to Wei-shih-hsien our friends found the three branches had formed one fast flowing wide river, equal in appearance to the Yang-tze at Wu-chang; this stream continues to the South East of the *hsien* about 50 li and then divides into two main streams.

Mr. Johnston and his companion went down the Eastern branch, and found after 20 li the river subdividing into a number of smaller streams, until by the time they reached a far South at Fu-keo Hsien, but distant from the city about 20 li eastward, the water had spread itself over the entire land, and it was about that district that the condition of the people seemed most deplorable. He says—hundreds and hundreds of villages might be seen not only surrounded by, but actually standing in, the water; so that those who lived there could scarcely step outside their doors without being drenched. Where the houses had fallen the people went elsewhere; but where the houses

were still standing the people who could remain seem to have done so. Again quoting from his letter:—

"Having called at several of these places for enquiry, we of course saw as well as heard, that the people were poorly circumstanced, yet all seemed fairly well clad and had no appearance of having really suffered from hunger.

"No special form of sickness appears to have shown itself in these places, many of them are most difficult of access. You will notice that this district to the East and South-East of Fu-keo Hsien is somewhat thickly populated, and it seems to me to be the most needy and urgent. At present, the villages and towns near Chou-kiang-keo are also surrounded by water, yet they are on much more lofty ground, and the dwellings are at a better level.

"It is not likely that one would meet with cases of absolute starvation, as most from any centre, within the radius of 30 li, food is being provided and shelter afforded by the government to those who are most needy; but the distribution of a few thousand taels would be of great value to those who expect to pass the winter in their desolate homes."

Another party of our missionaries having made a tour of exploration in another direction brings back very similar tidings to the above.

ROBBERIES IN SHANTUNG.

A missionary sufferer writes from Tsing-cheng-fu to our Shanghai morning contemporary under date the 4th December:—

Will you allow me to call attention through your widely read columns to the state of matters in this province so far as the foreign residents are concerned?

For the last year petty robberies of a burglarious character have been and are a common occurrence, so common in fact at the Mission stations that one missionary made the remark that "he never felt at ease until after his things taken in connection with the fact that in Tsing-nan-fu within the last year a missionary has been publicly insulted and beaten without to the present time having received any satisfaction whatever from the Chinese authorities, all goes to prove in the eyes of those who are lawlessly inclined that robbery and outrage may be indulged in with impunity towards 'the foreign devil.' The Chinese authorities by their inaction and indifference almost giving countenance to deeds of this kind.

As illustration of this, a missionary with his wife and child, while journeying from the capital on the main road within twenty miles of the city were robbed of all their money and valuables; the thieves breaking into the inn where they were staying, in the middle of the night, and after severely handling the missionary and two of his men, carried off all they wanted at their leisure. This has all happened within the last month.

I write this to show that the lives and property of missionaries and others in this province are far from safe, and that this is mainly due to the inaction of the officials who "care for none of these things," and as the pressure from above is slack, are not inclined to stir themselves much, especially in the cause of the foreigner. The Consuls in China are of course duly made acquainted with these facts and they no doubt are doing and have done their best, but yet they are backed up by the authorities in Peking and by a vigorous public sentiment, are not likely to accomplish much.

Missionaries in coming to China no doubt anticipate that they have as it were to take their lives and all that they have in their hands and they cheerfully accept the risk, but they do not by so doing relinquish their rights as citizens of the great nations they represent, nor are they inclined tamely to submit to robbery and violence so long as there are means which may be legitimately used for the effectual prevention of such deeds.

NOTES FROM CHINESE PAPERS.

The price of bean-oil is rising daily at Canton; owing to the very small shipments from Newchang this year on account of the floods. Groundnut oil is also standing at 10 cents a catty, which is higher than it has been for ten years.

A Chinese farmer at Kiu-kiang was robbed on his wedding night by a clever burglar who had concealed himself in the nuptial chamber, and removed everything so completely and conscientiously, that the unhappy pair had to send and borrow some clothes from the neighbours before they could make their appearance the next day.

The *Yih Wan Loh*, Chinese newspaper, says that a telegram has been received from Honan by the native authorities here, stating that the Yellow River is running with much less volume and velocity, that the officials are working with great ardour at the closing of the breach, and that hopes are entertained that this may be effected within a month from China New Year.

The British Consul at Chinkiang, Mr. Oxenham, has left for a visit to England, handing over charge to Mr. Mansfield, formerly of Wuhu. On the day after the latter's arrival at Chinkiang, both Consuls went in steam-chairs to visit the Taotai, Mr. Fuh, and the District Magistrate; and Chinese and foreign officials and merchants came to pay their respects to Mr. Mansfield. Mr. Mansfield subsequently invited the Taotai and Prefect and about 30 foreign gentlemen and ladies to a farewell dinner to Mr. Oxenham, at the three-story billiard-room, which was followed by dancing.

The *Shen Pao* is not so sanguine about the speedy closing of the breach at Chienchow by the present methods, but recommends the purchase of one or two steam dredgers. By steam dredgers great things have been effected in the Yangtze, which shortens the journey from Europe to China by 20,000 li. A small steam dredger of 30 or 40 feet long, and of 40 horse-power machinery, could dredge 3,000 piculs of sand and mud in a day, or as much as 3,000 coolies can do by the present system of manual labour. A tubular breakerwater should be made into which the sand dredged up should be dumped. Before anything effectual can be done, however, we must have real honest and sustained effort on the part of all those who have anything to do with the works, otherwise the results will be as poor as in the case of the Woosung Bar, which is making China the derision of the foreign press.

A NEW DISEASE.

Not a little uneasiness, according to the *Chicago Journal*, is said to have been caused in certain manufacturing regions by the outbreak of a peculiar disease in persons whose duties necessitate constant working under electric light. The disease, which is known as "electric prostration," lays siege to the subject's throat, face and temples. Some very severe cases of it are reported from Cronast, a town in France, a large number of men being kept at work in that town in a factory where metals are heated by an electric furnace. The strength of this furnace is over 300,000 candle-power, and while the heat is not in itself sufficient to hurt the men, the intense brilliancy of the light brings on the "electric prostration." The first symptom is said to be a painful sensation in the throat, followed by irritation and inflammation of the eyes. The victim's skin meanwhile takes on a copper-red color, while the pain in the eyes is followed by copious discharges of tears for forty-eight hours. After four or five days the victim's skin peels off in places, and he is otherwise made to feel the unpleasant nature of his situation. The general outbreak of such a disease as this would involve serious consequences. The number of men whose employment brings them into contact with the electric light is enormous, and is calculated to increase at the same rate as the comparatively new agent supplies the old means of illumination. It becomes a motive power. Some claim that the electric light is destined ultimately to supersede gas as a lighting power, or entirely, and should this be the case, a malady springing directly from contact with the new power would be a grave matter. The only remedy so far applied in cases of "electric prostration" has been the wearing of a shade over the eyes by the person affected by it. This, however, while it relieves the direct strain on the eyes, does not mitigate the gravity of the other symptoms.

The great minds that gave the electric light its being are naturally the best calculated to provide a means of remedying any unpleasant consequences that may be entailed by its use. To a mind like Mr. Edison's the discovery of a cure for "electric prostration" should be a simple matter. The malady bears an evident resemblance in some respects to the disease known as "color blindness," the victims of which are workmen whose duties entail a constant scanning of particular lamps at night. The entire subject is one that demands the attention of scientists. The electric light is far too valuable an agent to be retarded in its advancement by a drawback which a little careful study by those most familiar with it should remedy.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

(From Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Register.)	
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Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.
 Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—161 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Union Insurance Society of Canton—\$90 per share, sellers.
 China Traders' Insurance Company—\$75 per share, buyers.
 North China Insurance—Tis. 290 per share, buyers.
 Canton Insurance Company, Limited—\$97 per share, buyers.
 Yangtze Insurance Association—Tis. 97 per share, buyers.
 Chinese Insurance Company—\$165 per share, buyers.
 On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—Tis. 150, per share.
 Hongkong Fire Insurance Company—\$340 per share, buyers.
 China Fire Insurance Company—\$79 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, 37 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$20 per share, sellers.
 China and Manila Steam Ship Company—162 per share.
 Hongkong Gas Company—\$135 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Hotel Company—\$170 per share, nominal.
 Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited—17 per cent. dis. sellers.
 Douglas Steamship Company—\$65 per share, buyers.
 China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$197 per share, sellers.
 Luon Sugar Refining Company, Limited—\$85 per share, sellers.
 Hongkong Ice Company—\$101 per share, buyers.
 Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—\$80 per share.
 Hongkong Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$12 per share, sellers.
 A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—100 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 B—2 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1884 C—5 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Chinese Imperial Loan of 1885 E—11 per cent. premium.
 Hongkong Rone Manufacturing Company, Limited—\$79 per share, sellers.
 Perak Tin Mining and Smelting Company—\$5 per share, nominal.
 Punjom and Singhee Dus Samantan Mining Co.—\$7 per share, nominal.
 Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company—76 per cent. premium, buyers.
 Tonquin Coal Mining Co.—110 per cent. premium, sales and buyers.
 The Hongkong High-Level Tramway Co., Limited—250 per cent. premium, nominal.
 The East Borneo Planting Co., Limited—\$60 per share, buyers.
 The Songei Koyah Planting Co., Ltd.—\$39 per share, sellers.
 Cruickshank & Co., Ltd.—\$50 per share, sellers.
 The Steam Launch Co., Limited—20 per cent. dis. sellers.
 The Austin Arms Hotel and Building Co., Ltd.—40 per cent. dis. nominal.
 The China-Borneo Co., Ltd.—\$60 per share, sales and buyers.

Shipping.

ARRIVALS.
 APENRADE, German steamer, 1,475, Hohlmann, 2nd Jan.—Nagasaki 29th December, Coal.—Wieler & Co.
 KUTSANG, British steamer, 1,495, Wood, 2nd Jan.—Matheson & Co.
 HAILONG, British steamer, 781, J. S. Roach, 3rd Jan.—Fochow 30th Dec. Amoy 1st Jan., and Swatow 2nd, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.
 INGRAM, German steamer, 894, S. R. Massmann, 3rd Jan.—Swatow 2nd Jan., Coals.—Wieler & Co.
 STENTOR, British steamer, 1,307, S. Milligan, 3rd Jan.—Singapore 17th Nov., General.—Butterfield & Swire.
 ASHINGTON, German steamer, 850, C. Zindel, 3rd Jan.—Kutchinotay 29th Dec. Coals.—Siemens & Co.
 BORNIDA, Italian steamer, 1,890, E. De Negri, 3rd Jan.—Bombay, and Singapore 24th Dec. General.—Carlowitz & Co.
 FIDELIO, German steamer, 853, H. Brorsen, 3rd Jan.—Bangkok 25th Dec. General.—Melchers & Co.
CLEARANCES AT THE HARBOUR OFFICE.
 MILKE MARU, Japanese steamer, for Kutchinotay, Glucksburo, German steamer, for Amoy, Glucksburo, British steamer, for Yokohama.
DEPARTURES.
 January 2, Kaifong, British str. for Shanghai.
 January 2, Telford, German steamer, for Singapore.
 January 2, Hoihow, British str. for Shanghai.
 January 2, Choyang, British str. for Whampoa.
 January 3, Sochow, British str. for Hoihow.
 January 3, Formosa, British str. for Swatow.
 January 3, Kutsang, British str. for Whampoa.
 January 3, Raphael, American ship, for New York.
 January 3, Melbourne, French steamer, for Shanghai.
 January 3, Chow-fa, British steamer, for Swatow, &c.
PASSENGERS—ARRIVED.
 Per Fidelio, str. from Bangkok, 4 Chinese.
 Per Bornida, str. from Bombay, &c.—2 Chinese.
 Per Stentor, str. from Singapore.—Mrs. Ogston, Mr. Blake, and 150 Chinese.
 Per Kutsang, str. from Wuhu.—14 Chinese.
 Per Hailong, str. from Fochow, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Spinney, Mr. Barretto, 3 sons and servant, Messrs. Leigh, Orange, Song Kiu Sing, and 124 Chinese.
DEPARTED.
 Per Peshawar, str. from Hongkong for Singapore.—Mrs. Paul, Messrs. W. Pemberton, Willard, Larz Anderson, Malcolm Thomas, J. Gardour Colledge, Lim Chin Eng and family, An Young Fong, Wong Pak Huen, Ho Too Sang, Fong Suey Chee, Chan Yat Shan, and Mr. and Mrs. Chan Chong. For Penang.—Messrs. Chao Choy and Tam Shue Tong. For Bombay.—Miss Elise Sain, Onor. Abdool Kayoom, E. J. De Tobbia, Messrs. A. P. P. P. For Port Said.—Mr. Burnett Stuart. For Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Grant Birch. For London.—Mr. H. G. Hey. From Shanghai for Singapore.—Mr. Cameron. For Port Said.—Messrs. E. A. Johnson and C. F. Fearing. For London via Marseilles.—Messrs. R. H. Harwood and R. Harwood. For London.—Miss Lawrence, and Chinese child. For Marseilles.—Dr. and Mrs. Christie, 3 children and amab. From Yokohama for Bombay.—Rev. C. E. Whiteley. For London.—Major and Mrs. Little. For Marseilles.—Messrs. Elmore and Hink. For Kobe for Brindisi.—Mr. Goward. For Port Said.—Mr. Caldicott. From Nagasaki for Singapore.—Mr. Me. For Memnon, str. for Sandakan.—Mr. E. E. Abrahamson.

REPORTS.
 The German steamship Apenrade reports that she left Nagasaki on the 29th ultimo. Had fine weather throughout.
 The British steamship Kutsang reports that she left Wuhu on the 29th ultimo. Had moderate monsoon and fine clear weather throughout.
 The German steamship Stentor reports that she left Singapore on the 27th ultimo. Had northerly winds and squally weather to lat. 10 north thence to port light north-east winds and fine weather.
 The British steamship Hailong reports that she left Fochow on the 30th ultimo. Amoy on the 1st instant, and Swatow on the 2nd. From Fochow towards Amoy had fresh north-easterly winds and fine clear weather. From Amoy towards Swatow had light north-westerly winds and fine weather. From Swatow towards port had fresh northerly and north-westerly winds and fine weather. In Amoy, the steamships Namsa, Smith, Dofla, Yorkshire, and H.M.S. Expor.

EXCHANGE.
 ON LONDON.—Bank, T. T. 3/0
 Bank Bills, on demand 3/0
 Bank Bills, at 30 days sight 3/0
 Bank Bills, at 4 months sight 3/1
 Credits at 4 months sight 3/1
 Documentary Bills, at 4 months sight 3/1
 ON PARIS.—Bank, T. T. 3/7
 Credits, at 4 months sight 3/5
 ON INDIA, T. T. 223
 ON DEMAND 223
 ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, T. T. 714
 Private, 30 days sight 724

OPIMUM MARKET—THIS DAY.
 NEW MALWA, per picul, \$680
 (Allowance, Taels 4 to 32)
 OLD MALWA, per picul, \$690
 (Allowance, Taels 16 to 32)
 NEW PATNA, (without choice) per chest \$573
 NEW PATNA, (first choice) per chest \$570
 NEW PATNA, (bottom) per chest \$561
 NEW PATNA, (second choice) per chest \$571
 NEW BENARES, (without choice) per chest \$553
 NEW BENARES, (bottom) per chest \$561
 NEW BENARES, (best quality) per picul \$550
 OLD PERSIAN (best quality) per picul \$550
 OLD PERSIAN (second quality) per picul \$475

MAILS EXPECTED.
THE AMERICAN MAIL.
 The P. M. S. S. Co.'s steamer City of Rio de Janeiro, with the American mail of 8th ultimo, left Yokohama on the 3rd instant for this port, and may be expected here on or about the 6th.
THE INDIAN MAIL.
 The Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer Wing-sang, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 31st ultimo for this port, and is expected here on the 6th instant.
THE CANADIAN MAIL.
 The Canadian Pacific steamer Batavia, with the Canadian mail, left Vancouver on the 25th ultimo for Japan and Hongkong.
 The Canadian Pacific steamer Albany, with the Canadian mail, left Yokohama on the 29th ultimo.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer Thibet, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 27th ultimo, at 8 a.m., and is expected here on the 3rd instant.
 The "Glen" line steamer Glenavon, from London, left Singapore on the 28th ultimo, and is expected here on the 4th instant.
 The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer Karigar, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 29th ultimo, and is expected here on the 5th instant.
 The "Ben" line steamer Benlawers, left Singapore on the 30th ultimo, and is expected here on the 6th instant.
 The "Austro-Hungarian" Lloyd's S. N. Co.'s steamer Position, from Trieste, left Singapore on the 1st instant, and is expected here on the 6th.
 The D. D. R. steamer Hesperia, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 2nd instant, and is expected here on the 6th.

HONGKONG—STEAMERS.
Continued.
 JAPAN, British steamer, 1,865, T. S. Gardner, 2nd Jan.—Calcutta 13th Dec., Penang 21st, and Singapore 23rd, Opium, Cotton, and General.—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.
 JOHANNES BRUN, Norwegian steamer, 716, 31st Dec.—Haiphong, via Hoihow 28th Dec., Rice and Pigs.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.
 KONG BENG, British steamer, 863, R. Jones, 31st Dec.—Bangkok 23rd Dec., Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.
 MARIE, German steamer, 704, Handewadt, 2nd Jan.—Haiphong 31st December, Rice and General.—A. R. Marty.
 MELBOURNE, French steamer, 3,427, Vimont, 2nd Jan.—Marseilles 2nd Dec., and Saigon 30th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes.
 METAPEDIA, British steamer, 1,454, J. B. Purvis, 16th Dec.—Nagasaki 12th Dec., Coal.—Takasima Colliery Co.
 METAPEDIA, British steamer, 1,454, J. B. Purvis, 31st Dec.—Nagasaki 26th Dec., Coals.—Takasima Colliery Co.
 MIKE MARU, Japanese steamer, 2,380, P. Ne, 29th Dec.—Kutchinotay 24th Dec., Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
 OCEANIC, British steamer, 3,808, Jno. Metcalfe, 27th Dec.—San Francisco 28th Nov., and Yokohama 21st Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S. N. Co.
 PAKSHAN, British steamer, 835, James Young, 2nd Jan.—Bangkok 26th Dec., Rice.—Hop Hing Hong.
 PHUQUOC, French steamer, 183, Robin, 17th Dec.—Touren 11th December, Coal.—Wing Tat.
 TRIUMPH, German steamer, 677, P. Moos, 22nd Dec.—Haiphong 19th Dec., and Hoihow 21st, General.—Wieler & Co.
 VERONA, British steamer, 1,879, M. de Home, 30th Dec.—Yokohama 23rd Dec., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
 YANGTZE, German steamer, 814, C. Tonnigsen, 2nd Jan.—Whampoa 2nd Jan., General.—Siemens & Co.
 YEHIN, Chinese steamer, 754, Buchanan, 18th Dec.—Shanghai 15th Dec., Kerosine Oil.—C. M. S. N. Co.
SAILING VESSELS.
 ALTAIR, British bark, 399, T. Munro, 1st Dec.—Newchwang, via Amoy 28th Nov., Beans and Melon Seed.—Order.
 ARCADIA, British bark, 417, D. S. Eward, 25th Nov.—Whampoa 24th Nov., General.—Wieler & Co.
 AUGUSTA, German bark, 473, Jessen, 3rd Dec.—Hoihow 18th Nov., Sappanwood.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.
 BYLORA, German bark, 333, P. Weiss, 16th Dec.—Amoy 14th Dec., General.—Wieler & Co.
 COLOMA, American bark, 852, C. M. Wages, 24th Dec.—Portland (Oregon) 2nd Nov., Lumber and Spars.—Captain.
 DANIEL BARNES, American ship, 1,436, J. G. Stover, 17th Dec.—Honolulu 12th Nov., Ballast.—Order.
 ESMERALDA, British sch., 130, H. T. Williams, 20th Dec.—Marianas 8th Dec., General.—Order.
 ERLKORING, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination hulk, Stonecutters' Island—Chinese Customs.
 ITON, French bark, 542, Régulier, 24th Dec.—Cap 8th December, General.—Melchers & Co.
 JOHN NICHOLSON, British steamer, 685, W. Quine, 18th Dec.—Honolulu 16th Nov., Ballast.—Captain.
 MERCUR, British brigantine, 219, Dick, 12th Dec.—Amoy 11th Dec., General.—Order.
 ORIENT, German bark, 461, Gondard, 31st Dec.—Amoy 29th Dec., Ballast.—H. A. Peterson.
 SARAH SKIDGWAY, American bark, 821, A. Call, 29th Dec.—Nagasaki 21st Dec., Coal.—C. J. T. Co.
 TARAPACA, British bark, 492, H. Kennett, 6th Dec.—Sandakan 24th October, Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.
 VELOCTY, British bark, 491, R. Martin, 14th Nov.—Honolulu 3rd October, Old Iron.—Chinese.

HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS IN THE CHINA SQUADRON.
 Alacrity, despatch-vessel, 1,400 tons, 3,180 h-p, 4 guns, Commander R. Blair Macdonell, Hongkong.
 Cockchafer, gunboat, 2nd-class, 460 tons, 470 h-p, 12 guns, Lieut.-Commander E. Maxwell, Newchwang.
 Constance, cruiser, 3rd-class, 2,380 tons, 2,590 h-p, 14 guns, Captain L. C. Keppel, en route to Hongkong.
 Cordelia, cruiser, 3rd-class, 2,380 tons, 2,420 h-p, 10 guns, Captain H. B. Boys, en route to Hongkong.
 Eak, gunboat, 3rd-class, Coast Defence, 363 tons, 340 h-p, 3 guns, Gunner W. Weeks, Hongkong, in reserve.
 Export, gunboat, 2nd-class, 465 tons, 470 h-p, 4 guns, Lieutenant-Comdr. R. Y. Smith, Amoy.
 Firebrand, gunboat, 2nd-class, 455 tons, 460 horse-power, 4 guns, Lieut.-Commander J. Denison, Hongkong.
 Heroine, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,420 tons, 1,750 h-p, 8 guns, Captain Charles J. Balfour, en route to Hongkong.
 Imperieuse, twin-screw cruiser, 5,400 tons, 10,000 horse-power, 10 guns, Captain Wm. H. May, Flag of Commander-in-Chief, Hongkong.
 Leander, cruiser, 2nd-class, 3,750 tons, 5,500 h-p, 10 guns, Captain M. J. Dunlop, Hongkong.
 Linnet, gun-vessel, 2nd-class, 756 tons, 1,050 h-p, 5 guns, Commander W. H. Marnack, Hongkong.
 Merlin, gunboat, 2nd-class, 430 tons, 430 h-p, 6 guns, Lieut.-Comdr. G. H. Yonge, Hongkong.
 Mutine, sloper, 1,130 tons, 1,120 h-p, 10 guns, Commander J. H. Martin, en route to Hongkong.
 Orion, twin-screw battleship, 2nd-class armoured, 4,870 tons, 4,040 horse-power, 4 guns, Captain H. J. Carr.
 Porpoise, gunboat, 1st-class, 1,750 tons, 3,500 horse-power, Commander R. W. White, Hongkong.
 Rambler, surveying-vessel, 820 tons, 600 h-p, 3 guns, Commander W. A. Moore, Hongkong.
 Rattlesnake, gunboat, 1st-class, 670 tons, 1,200 h-p, 6 guns, Lieutenant-Commander W. H. M. Douglas, Hongkong.
 Sapphire, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,970 tons, 2,360 h-p, 12 guns, Captain W. C. Karlake, Singapore.
 Satellite, cruiser, 3rd-class, 1,420 tons, 1,400 h-p, 8 guns, Captain T. E. W. Neasham, en route to Hongkong.
 Swift, gun-vessel, 2nd-class, 750 tons, 1,010 h-p, 5 guns, Commander R. Bingham, Sandakan.
 Tweak, gunboat, Coast Defence, 3rd-class, 363 tons, 340 h-p, 3 guns, Gunner D. W. Hawkins, Hongkong, in reserve.
 Victor Emanuel, receiving ship, 5,157 tons, 30 guns, Commodore Maxwell, Hongkong.
 Wivern, Coast Defence ship (armoured), 2,750 tons, 1,450 h-p, 4 guns, Gunner D. W. Hawkins, Hongkong, in reserve.
 Wanderer, sloper, 2nd class, 750 h-p, 4 guns, Commander G. A. Gifford, Singapore.

Post Office.
 A MAIL WILL CLOSE
 For Nagasaki, Kobe, and Yokohama.—Per Verona, tomorrow, the 4th instant, at 11.30 A.M.
 For Kobe and Yokohama.—Per Bangla, tomorrow, the 4th instant, at 3.30 P.M.
 For Hoihow and Pakhol.—Per Actio, to the 4th instant, at 5.00 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.
STEAMERS.
 ABYSSINIA, British steamer, 3,500, Geo. A. Lee, 12th Dec.—Vancouver 13th Nov., and Nagasaki 8th Dec. General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
 ACTIV, Danish steamer, 355, Revsbeck, 2nd Jan.—Haiphong 30th Dec., and Hoihow 1st Jan., Rice.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 CHOW-PA, British steamer, 1,055, F. W. Phillips, 28th Dec.—Bangkok 28th Dec., General.—Scottish Oriental S. S. Co.
 DAPHNE, German steamer, 1,395, F. Voss, 1st Jan.—Hoihow 26th December, General.—Siemens & Co.
 DEYAWONGSE, British steamer, 1,057, P. H. Loff, 20th Dec.—Saigon 25th Dec. General.—Soey Shing.
 DIAMANTE, British steamer, 514, G. Taylor, 31st Dec.—Manila 28th Dec. General.—Russell & Co.
 FAME, British steamer, 117, A. Stopani, Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.
 FREJA, Danish steamer, 277, C. A. Lund, 30th Dec.—Haiphong 28th Dec., General.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.
 FUSIMI, Chinese steamer, 1,503, A. Croad, 31st Dec.—Shanghai 28th Dec., General.—C. M. S. N. Co.
 GENERAL WERDER, German steamer, 1,820, W. von Schuckmann, 21st Dec.—Yokohama 12th Dec., Kobe 15th, and Nagasaki 17th, General.—Melchers & Co.
 GLENKAGLES, British steamer, 1,837, E. F. Park, and Jan.—New York 8th Nov., and Singapore 26th Dec. General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
 GLUCKSBURG, German steamer, 916, Ad. Schulz, 2nd Dec.—Singapore 23rd Dec., General.—Man Moh.
 HAITAY, British steamer, 1,182, S. Ashton, 30th Dec.—Fochow 29th Dec., Amoy 28th Dec., and Swatow 27th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

ARRIVALS.
 JAPAN, British steamer, 1,865, T. S. Gardner, 2nd Jan.—Calcutta 13th Dec., Penang 21st, and Singapore 23rd, Opium, Cotton, and General.—D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.
 JOHANNES BRUN, Norwegian steamer, 716, 31st Dec.—Haiphong, via Hoihow 28th Dec., Rice and Pigs.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.
 KONG BENG, British steamer, 863, R. Jones, 31st Dec.—Bangkok 23rd Dec., Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.
 MARIE, German steamer, 704, Handewadt, 2nd Jan.—Haiphong 31st December, Rice and General.—A. R. Marty.
 MELBOURNE, French steamer, 3,427, Vimont, 2nd Jan.—Marseilles 2nd Dec., and Saigon 30th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes.
 METAPEDIA, British steamer, 1,454, J. B. Purvis, 16th Dec.—Nagasaki 12th Dec., Coal.—Takasima Colliery Co.
 METAPEDIA, British steamer, 1,454, J. B. Purvis, 31st Dec.—Nagasaki 26th Dec., Coals.—Takasima Colliery Co.
 MIKE MARU, Japanese steamer, 2,380, P. Ne, 29th Dec.—Kutchinotay 24th Dec., Coal.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.
 OCEANIC, British steamer, 3,808, Jno. Metcalfe, 27th Dec.—San Francisco 28th Nov., and Yokohama 21st Dec., Mails and General.—O. & O. S. N. Co.
 PAKSHAN, British steamer, 835, James Young, 2nd Jan.—Bangkok 26th Dec., Rice.—Hop Hing Hong.
 PHUQUOC, French steamer, 183, Robin, 17th Dec.—Touren 11th December, Coal.—Wing Tat.
 TRIUMPH, German steamer, 677, P. Moos, 22nd Dec.—Haiphong 19th Dec., and Hoihow 21st, General.—Wieler & Co.
 VERONA, British steamer, 1,879, M. de Home, 30th Dec.—Yokohama 23rd Dec., Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
 YANGTZE, German steamer, 814, C. Tonnigsen, 2nd Jan.—Whampoa 2nd Jan., General.—Siemens & Co.
 YEHIN, Chinese steamer, 754, Buchanan, 18th Dec.—Shanghai 15th Dec., Kerosine Oil.—C. M. S. N. Co.

STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Thibet	Bombay	January 3rd	P. & O. S. N. Co.
Glenavon	London	January 4th	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Albany	Vancouver	January 4th	Adamson, Bell & Co.
Kashgar	Bombay	January 5th	P. & O. S. N. Co.
Benlawers	Singapore	January 5th	Gibb, Livingston & Co.
Vingsang	Calcutta	January 6th	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Poseidon	Singapore	January 7th	Austro-Hung. Lloyd's Co.
Ilesperia	Hamburg	January 9th	Siemens & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro	San Francisco	January 9th	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.
Itatiaia	Vancouver	January 22nd	Adamson, Bell & Co.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.	VESSELS.	AGENTS.	DATE OF LEAVING.
London, via Suez Canal	Ulysses	Butterfield & Swire	January 6th.
Marseilles, via Saigon, &c.	Caledonia	Messageries Maritimes	Jan. 9th, at noon.
Bremen, & Ports of Call.	Bayern	Melchers & Co.	Jan. 20th, at 10 a.m.
Havre and Hamburg, &c.	Daphne	Siemens & Co.	Jan. 5th, at noon.
Tricite, via Straits, &c.	Poseidon	Austro-Hung. Lloyd's Co.	Jan. 11th, at noon.
Genoa, via Bombay, &c.	Bornida	Carlowitz & Co.	About Jan. 14, noon.
San Francisco, via Y'hama	City of Rio de Janeiro	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.	Jan. 17th, at 1 p.m.
Vancouver, B.C., via K. &c.	Oceanic	O. & O. S. N. Co.	Jan. 17th, at 1 p.m.
Calcutta, via Straits, &c.	Abyssinia	Adamson, Bell & Co.	Jan. 18th, at 3 p.m.
Yokohama, via N'saki, &c.	Verona	D. Sassoon, Sons & Co.	Jan. 8th, at noon.
Kobe and Yokohama	Thibet	P. & O. S. N. Co.	To-morrow, at noon.
Shanghai, via Amoy	Benlawers	Gibb, Livingston & Co.	Jan. 11th, at noon.
Coast Ports	Stentor	Butterfield & Swire	About Jan. 6th.
	Hailong	Douglas Lapraik & Co.	January 6th, daylig.

INTIMATIONS.
W. POWELL & CO.
 EX S.S. "GLENBARN."
 A LARGE shipment of CROCKERY consisting of Breakfast and Dinner Ware, Bedroom Toilet Sets, Cheese Covers, Jugs, Tea Cups and Saucers, Teapots, &c., &c.
 Also,
 A new shipment of ELECTRIC LAMPS for Table, Library and Hall use.
HEATING and COOKING STOVES.
W. POWELL & CO.
 Victoria Exchange, Hongkong, 2nd January, 1889.

INTIMATIONS.
F. Blackhead & Co.,
 SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,
 AND
 PROVISION MERCHANTS,
 NAVY CONTRACTORS,
 AND
 GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.
 No. 11 Praya Central.
 (Opposite Padder's Wharf).
SOLE AGENTS
 for
RAHTJEN'S
GENUINE
COMPOSITION
 FOR
 THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS
 CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS
 PRESERVATIVE AGAINST
 ROTTING, DECAY, &c., OF WOOD.
CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX, CLARETS.
IMPERIAL CHAMPAGNE,
LA GRANDE MARQUE.
FLENSBURG STOCKDEER,
ENGINEERS and BLACKSMITHS' TOOLS
AND EVERY KIND OF SHIP'S
STORES and REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK
 AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
ALL KINDS OF
COALS
 SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
 Hongkong, 1st January, 1889.
 FOR SALE, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
WATERBURY WATCHES,
 the Handiest, Cheapest, and Best
 Time-keepers invented.
 \$3 PRICE THREE DOLLARS EACH \$3
 REPAIRS NEVER EXCEED 50 CENTS
 for each Watch.
 Orders from Outport to be accompanied with
 Remittance for Cost.
THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHIA,
 (Sole Agents in Japan and China
 for the Sale of the above Watches),
 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
 Opposite Martine House.
 Hongkong, 29th August, 1888.
FOR SALE.
AT WHOLESALE PRICES.
SACCONES SHERRY, FORT CLARETS,
BURGUNDY, HOCKS, CHAMPAGNES,
BRANDIES, WHISKIES,
"EMPIRE" ALE and STOUT,
MACHINERY, GAS ENGINES, "EMPIRE"
LUBRICATORS,
SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES,
COOKING STOVES, SCALES,
PAINTS, OILS and VARNISH,
BICYCLES and TRICYCLES,
JUVENILE VELOCIPEDS, HORSES and
"TRICYCLES,"
BICYCLE WHEELS for JINRICKSHAS,
BOAT-WATER MACHINES,
JET'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS.
 Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
 Bank Buildings,
 Hongkong, 29th September, 1888.

Intimations.
SCOTT'S
EMULSION
 OF PURE COD LIVER OIL
 With Hypophosphites of Lime & Soda.
 PALATABLE AS MILK.
 The only preparation of COD LIVER OIL that can be taken readily and tolerably for 10 or 15 years.
 AS A REMEDY FOR CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS, ANEMIA, GENERAL DEBILITY, COUGHS, AND THROAT AFFECTIONS, AND ALL WASTING DISORDERS OF CHILDREN OF ADULTS IT IS MARVELLOUS IN ITS RESULTS.
 Prescribed and endorsed by the best Physicians.
 SOLD BY ALL CHEMISTS.
 Agents for China and Hongkong: Messrs. A. S. WATSON & Co. (LIMITED). Hongkong, 20th December, 1888.

Intimations.
W. POWELL & CO.
 EX S.S. "GLENBARN."
 A LARGE shipment of CROCKERY consisting of Breakfast and Dinner Ware, Bedroom Toilet Sets, Cheese Covers, Jugs, Tea Cups and Saucers, Teapots, &c., &c.
 Also,
 A new shipment of ELECTRIC LAMPS for Table, Library and Hall use.
HEATING and COOKING STOVES.
W. POWELL & CO.
 Victoria Exchange, Hongkong, 2nd January, 1889.

Intimations.
W. POWELL & CO.
 EX S.S. "GLENBARN."
 A LARGE shipment of CROCKERY consisting of Breakfast and Dinner Ware, Bedroom Toilet Sets, Cheese Covers, Jugs, Tea Cups and Saucers, Teapots, &c., &c.
 Also,
 A new shipment of ELECTRIC LAMPS for Table, Library and Hall use.
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